

B-Engrossed
Senate Bill 89

Ordered by the House June 5
Including Senate Amendments dated April 27 and House Amendments
dated June 5

Printed pursuant to Senate Interim Rule 213.28 by order of the President of the Senate in conformance with pre-session filing rules, indicating neither advocacy nor opposition on the part of the President (at the request of Senate Interim Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Authorizes county governing body in each county and Department of Veterans' Affairs to appoint one or more volunteer veterans' guides to provide support services and assistance to veterans, spouses and dependents of veterans, and survivors of veterans, within county or served by department. Specifies duties of volunteer veterans' guides. Requires county governing body or department to conduct fingerprint-based criminal records check on applicants and to require guide to sign oath of confidentiality.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to veterans.

3 Whereas Jean Maxwell has expended extensive time and effort to organize volunteers to provide
4 support services and assistance to veterans, spouses and dependents of veterans, and survivors of
5 veterans in this state; and

6 Whereas the Legislative Assembly supports and encourages the continued provision of organized
7 volunteer efforts for veterans and their dependents in this state; now, therefore,

8 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

9 **SECTION 1. (1)(a) The county governing body in each county may appoint one or more**
10 **volunteer veterans' guides to provide support services and assistance to veterans, spouses**
11 **and dependents of veterans, and survivors of veterans, within the county.**

12 **(b) The Department of Veterans' Affairs may appoint one or more volunteer veterans'**
13 **guides to provide support services and assistance to veterans, spouses and dependents of**
14 **veterans, and survivors of veterans, whom the department serves.**

15 **(2) A volunteer veterans' guide shall provide volunteer services under the direction of:**

16 **(a) The county veterans' service officers appointed under ORS 408.410, as described in**
17 **ORS 406.450; or**

18 **(b) The Department of Veterans' Affairs, as appropriate.**

19 **(3) The duties of a volunteer veterans' guide may include, but are not limited to:**

20 **(a) Developing and maintaining relationships with the local community and local service**
21 **providers for veterans;**

22 **(b) Assisting and referring veterans to county and local providers of support services and**
23 **programs for food, shelter and health care within the county;**

24 **(c) Assisting county veterans' service officers or state veterans' service officers in de-**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **veloping, planning and implementing outreach to local veterans; and**

2 **(d) Assisting county veterans' service officers or state veterans' service officers by pro-**
3 **viding administrative services, including handling of telephone calls, scheduling client ap-**
4 **pointments, greeting clients, doing client intake, distributing materials, doing mailings, and**
5 **handling, scanning and copying of documents and files.**

6 **(4) The county governing body or the department, as appropriate, shall:**

7 **(a) Conduct a fingerprint-based criminal records check on an applicant for a volunteer**
8 **veterans' guide position prior to appointing the person to the position; and**

9 **(b) Require the volunteer veterans' guide to sign an oath of confidentiality relating to**
10 **all information received by the guide that relates to clients and applicants or recipients of**
11 **veterans' benefits or public assistance, including but not limited to names, addresses, tele-**
12 **phone numbers, and personal, financial and medical information.**

13 **(5) The volunteer veterans' guide shall serve as a volunteer and receive no compensation.**
14 **The county or the department, as appropriate, may reimburse the volunteer veterans' guide**
15 **for expenses, may provide the guide with business cards bearing the county's or the**
16 **department's official logo and may provide the guide with office space and equipment, if**
17 **available or necessary. Expenditures made pursuant to this subsection, if any, must be made**
18 **from the county funds described in ORS 408.720 or the department's funds, as appropriate.**

19 **(6) The department may provide training for volunteer veterans' guides and county**
20 **veterans' service officers on implementation of this section and offer opportunities for**
21 **sharing innovative practices and ideas.**

22 **(7) As used in this section:**

23 **(a) "Survivor" means the spouse or a dependent of a deceased veteran.**

24 **(b) "Veteran" has the meaning given that term in ORS 408.225.**

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